

# Fifi D'Orsay Arrives, Awes Chapel Theatre Cast, Crew

By BETTY SCHROETER  
Chapel Theatre had a "work party" at the theater Sunday in preparation of the arrival of the star of the new production opening Friday, April 13, at Chapel Theatre, located in Smith Bros. Shopping Center, 4164 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance.

This is the first time that Chapel Theatre is engaging an Hollywood celebrity in a starring role which has caused much excitement for all in the Chapel Theatre family. This was very evident in the hurry and scurry of the working crew who came equipped with mops, pails, brooms, window cleaners, and everything one can imagine for house cleaning purposes. Some of the crew were still putting last minute touches on the sets and props that evening when the cast of "Gigi" arrived to welcome Fifi D'Orsay who will star as Aunt Alicia in this history-making production in Chapel Theatre.

DON GISH and Steve Sands first saw Miss D'Orsay portray her role in Laguna and it was at that time they decided to present "Gigi" until Miss D'Orsay could be available to do this same role in Chapel Theatre.

It was with mixed emotions that the cast awaited the arrival of this famous French actress. Some were somewhat awed at the prospect of appearing on stage with as famous a personage as Fifi D'Orsay; a few were somewhat frightened that lines would be forgotten while on stage with Miss D'Orsay; a few were even on the verge of stage fright.

Needless to say, all their fears were dispelled when Fifi D'Orsay made a punctual entrance at the stage door and was introduced to each and every one in the theatre by Director Don Gish of Palos Verdes. Immediately everyone felt that Fifi (as she insists upon being called) was the person you have known for years, as she captured the

friendship of each one with her gracious and charming warmth.

MISS D'ORSAY'S famous French mannerisms, vivacious and coquettish conversation not only exist on stage, but are all part of her in real life. She is as quaint and bubbling as she is lovely. It is the full consensus of the cast and crew of "Gigi" that Miss D'Orsay is

nothing less than great! Furthermore, they hope that the performances of "Gigi" go on, and on, and on! It is thus evident that the famous French Bombshell has again cast her dynamic spell on those around her.

Featured in the role of Gigi is 18-year-old Kirby Gangel of Manhattan Beach. Others in the cast include: Gladys Manu of Wilmington as Gigi's grand-

mother; Suzanne Shinder of Torrance as Gigi's mother; Wayne Ward of Manhattan Beach as Gaston; Thomas Lowry of Los Angeles as Victor the Butler; Charlene French of Torrance as Sidonie the Maid; with Thelma Ledwidge of Torrance as Miss D'Orsay's understudy.

ANOTHER FIRST of Chapel Theatre is the fact that there will be entertainment during intermission when coffee is served to the patrons, which has been the custom with Chapel Theatre. The entertainment scheduled is very appropriate in that what is more French

in entertainment than "The Can Can"? The girls, presented by Barbara School of Dance, Redondo Beach, include Peggy Bean, Terry Masonheimer, Barbara Simonson, and Sharon Wickstrom, all complete with Can Can costumes.

As announced by box office personnel Max and Marion Wilmarth, there are already several performance nights sold out due to the combined popularity of both the star, Fifi D'Orsay and the play, "Gigi." Therefore, it is suggested that reservations be made well in advance of the performance desired by calling box office, FR 2-2936 early.



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## Mosk Here For Rally Wednesday

Attorney General Stanley Mosk will be the guest speaker at a dinner to be held in his honor at the Jump 'n Jack Restaurant on April 11, 1962. The dinner is sponsored by the Southwest Los Angeles Democratic Associates, according to George Perkovich, Perkovich, who is Peninsula chairman of the Mosk campaign, stated that this is probably the only dinner meeting which Attorney General Mosk will be able to attend in this area during the primary campaign. The Southwest Los Angeles Democratic Associates is a group of business and professional men in the Southwest community. The evening's activities will climax a busy day for Mosk in the area, as he will also be guest of honor at a private reception earlier in the day at the Plush Horse Hotel. The dinner, which starts at 8 p.m., will be preceded by cocktails at the Jump 'n Jack at 6:30. A short business session of the Southwest Los Angeles Democratic Associates will also be held at which the members will vote on officers for the coming year.

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